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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/019,268 Confirmation No. 1324  
Applicant : Siegfried RUTHARDT et al.  
Filed : March 12, 2002  
TC/A.U. : 3752  
Examiner : Davis D. Hwu  
  
Docket No. : R.37379  
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: February 11, 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(i),  
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(i), since it is being filed after payment of the issue fee.

This prior art citation is being submitted under 37 CFR 1.97(i) because the prior art did not come to the attention of the undersigned until a time such that 37 CFR 1.97(e) precluded consideration under 37 CFR 1.97(d).

The undersigned asserts that the prior art cited on the attached form 1449 has been compared to the allowed claims, and that the prior art cited on this form 1449 is not materially closer to the claimed subject matter than is the prior art which the examiner has already considered.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form 1449 is as follows:

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**DE 196 53 339 A1**

This patent teaches a pump unit for supplying fuel. The pump unit has a high pressure pump preceded by a low pressure feed pump. Between them there is an axially sprung slide valve. The valve closes the connection between the pumps when the pressure in the valve input falls below a minimum level. A pressure limiting valve (72) is fitted in the input (18) of the slide valve (71). This valve connects the slide valve input to the storage container (14) when the pressure ( $p_2$ ) in the input of the slide valve exceeds a preset maximum value ( $p_{2\max}$ ).

**DE 197 29 392 A1**

This patent teaches a fuel store or reservoir which has a storage housing (1) with a storage chamber (6). It also has an inlet (28) and an outlet (29) and a connection region for a pressure sensor (2). The connection region is divided into two recesses (8,13) arranged in the storage housing (1). The first recess (8) comes out from the storage chamber (6) and makes a transition into the second recess (13). The cross-section of the first recess (8) is smaller than that of the second (13). A flat seal (7) with a hole (19) is provided in the second recess (13). The pressure sensor (2) is connected to the housing (1) in a form or force fitting manner. The flat seal (7) presses against the housing (1) such that the fuel pressure of the storage chamber (6) is applied to the pressure sensor (2) only in the region of the hole (19).

**DE 197 55 303 A1**

This patent teaches a fuel supply system with a throttle arrangement (11) provided on a section (10) between the fuel filter (6) and the internal combustion engine (17) and/or the

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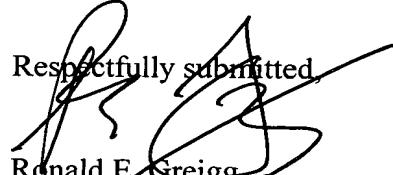
fuel regulator (12). The throttle can be positioned in branch (10) upstream of the regulator or upstream of the branch, or in both positions.

**DE 198 54 878 A1**

This patent teaches an injection valve for the in-cylinder injection of fuel. The valve is provided with: a valve device which injects fuel; a solenoid which opens the valve and closes it; a housing in which the valve device and the solenoid are lodged; and a fuel pipe device which connects the valve device to a supply pipe. The fuel pipe device is provided with: a supply pipe section that is subjected to pressure which is located inside the supply pipe and is exposed to a fuel pressure from the inside of the supply pipe; a housing section subjected to pressure which is connected to the valve device inside the housing and is exposed to a fuel pressure from the inside of the housing; and a fastening section which is located between the two pressure-subjected sections in order to connect the fuel pipe device to the housing.

**US 6,199,538 B1**

This patent is in the same family as DE 198 54 878 A1 and is provided as an aid to the examiner.

  
Respectfully submitted,  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**  
*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

Docket Number (Optional)  
**R.37379**

Application Number  
**10/019,268**

Applicant(s)  
**Siegfried RUTHARDT et al.**

Filing Date  
**03-12-2002** Group Art Unit  
**3752**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
O I P E	JCP	6,199,538 B1	03-13-2001	Masayuki AOTA et al.			
FEB 11 2005							

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS**

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	DE 196 53 339 A1	06-25-1998	Germany				✓
	DE 197 29 392 A1	01-14-1999	Germany				✓
	DE 197 55 303 A1	06-17-1999	Germany				✓
	DE 198 54 878 A1	01-13-2000	Germany				✓

**OTHER DOCUMENTS** *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*


**EXAMINER**

**DATE CONSIDERED**

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.